BOOK REVIEW

Glafiro Alanís Flores. 2007. **El Valor de Nuestras Plantas.** (ISBN 978-970-9715-26-2, hbk.). Fondo Editorial de Nuevo León, Zaragoza 1300, Edificio Kalos, Nivel A2, Desp. 249, CP 64000, Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico. (**Orders:** www.fondoeditorialnl.gob.mx, (81) 8344 2970 y 71). \$150.00, 157 pp., color photographs, b/w line drawings, color paintings, 9" × 9".

Contents:

Presentación

Nuestras plantas

Leyenda del ánima anacahuita ¿Por qué comemos mahuacatas? La inundación de 1909 El sabino gordo de Terán La dominante gobernadora La deliciosa nieve de pitaya El preciado oro verde

Cómo plantar un árbol

This is a delightfully charming book filled to the brim with school children's paintings of northeastern Mexican flowers and plants. This compilation comes from students in 58 ecological clubs around the state of Nuevo León, Mexico, who have studied native plants and learned how to draw them. While acknowledging the practical services provided by plants, such as global climate control and sustenance, the book communicates the aesthetic value of plants and the importance of training a new generation to take up a commitment to conservation. Education is promoted as a means to incite Nuevo León to protect the natural areas that still remain in its municipalities, to responsibly reforest with native species, and to encourage further research into new ways to use plants. Loving and at times quite masterful illustrations grace the approximately 30 plant species that are described, along with comments on their local distribution, methods and requirements for their propagation, and their current and potential uses. Interspersed throughout the illustrations are narratives espousing the values of nature, quoted from figures important to the history of Nuevo León. This enchanting call to the conservation of nature will please any reader and stands as a testament to the value of an environmental education and a meeting point between the arts and sciences.—Tiana Franklin, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 East 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.